Review of Military Assistance by U.S. to Pakistan

2042. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:
SHRI P. N. SUKUL:
SHRI SHANTI TYAGI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have urged the U.S. Government to review its military assistance to Pakistan in the light of proposed withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the United States in this regard;

(c) whether the US Secretary of defence Mr. Frank Carlucci have visited India and had far reaching discussions with him on various issues; and

(d) if so, what are the details of the issue discussed and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The United States has reiterated its commitment to the multi-year security and economic assistance to Pakistan for the fiscal years 1988 to 1993.

(c) and (d). The US Defence Secretary Mr. Frank Carlucci visited India from 4-6 April, 1988 as a part of the ongoing high level dialogue between India and the USA on different areas of bilateral cooperation. The US Defence Secretary held talks with the Raksha Mantri. Their discussions on bilateral cooperation in defence focussed on transfer of technology in mission areas and acquisition of training aids. The situation in South and South-West Asia was also discussed in the light of current developments and the two sides also exchanged views on international issues of mutual interest. India's concern regarding military assistance to Pakistan was conveyed to the US side. It would not be in the national interest to disclose the details of the discussions.

Supply of M.I.A.I. tanks to Pakistan by USA

2043. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Jens' Defence Weekly published from London to the effect that U.S.A. has decided to supply sophisticated M.I.A.I. tanks to Pakistan;

(b) whether after acquiring such armoured brigades sophisticated tanks, striking power of Pakistan will increase abundantly as compared to that of India; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Government have seen the media report, but have no confirmed information about the US Government having decided to supply M.I.A.I. tanks to Pakistan.

(b) Acquisition of such modern tanks will enhance the combat potential of the Pakistan Army.

(c) Government keep a constant watch on all such developments which have a bearing on our national security and take all necessary steps to ensure full defence preparedness.

Promotion of Ad-hoc Employees

2044. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are provisions/precedents for promotion of *ad hoc* Central Government officers who are nearing superannuation; and